

# Brushing Your Pet's Teeth

## 4 Basic Steps



1.



Place your non-dominant hand in a C-Shape around the muzzle of your pet so the mouth is kept closed.

Retract the upper lip to make the teeth visible.



3.



Move the brush in a **circular** motion with **mild** pressure. Too much pressure can damage and irritate the gingiva.

\*\*\*Mild bleeding may occur during the first few episodes of brushing.\*\*\*

2.



Use a soft-bristled toothbrush: First, dampen the brush with water only\* and place where the tooth and gingiva (gum) meet. Then, angle the bristles at 45 degrees toward the gum line.

\*Using water instead of flavored toothpaste will deter your pet from chewing on the brush.



4.



Use toothpaste specifically for dogs and cats; apply some paste with your finger around the gingiva and teeth.

**\*Remember\***

Toothpaste is not required for brushing; the mechanical motion of the bristles is essential for plaque removal.